



PRESS RELEASE
*Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida*

PAUL I. PEREZ
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

400 North Tampa Street
Suite 3200
Tampa, Florida 33602
813/274-6000
813/274-6300 (Fax)

300 North Hogan Street, Suite 700
Post Office Box 600
Jacksonville, Florida 32201
904/301-6300
904/301-6310 (Fax)

80 North Hughey Avenue,
Room 201
Orlando, Florida 32801
407/648-7500
407/648-7643 (Fax)

2110 First Street,
Suite 3-137
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
239/461-2200
239/461-2219 (fax)

Contact: Steve Cole ♦ Public Affairs Specialist ♦ 813/274-6352

For Immediate Release

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**CITRUS COUNTY MAN INDICTED FOR POSSESSION
OF MULTIPLE WEAPONS BY A CONVICTED FELON**

United States Attorney Paul I. Perez today announced the indictment by a federal grand jury in Jacksonville, Florida, relating to the possession of multiple firearms by a Citrus County man who had previously been convicted of felony offenses.

James S. Morrell, a/k/a “Grumpy,” age 56 of Lecanto, Florida was indicted Thursday on two counts of possession of eight firearms by a convicted felon. The indictment charges that Morrell was in possession of eight weapons, including several semi-automatic pistols, in June 2001 at two locations, one in Lecanto and one in Homosassa, Florida.

If convicted of the charges in the Indictment, Morrell faces up to 20 years’ imprisonment; a criminal fine of \$500,000; or both the imprisonment and the fines.

The investigation of this case was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in Tampa, Florida. The cases is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Will Mackie.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.